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UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT

NORTHERN DISTRICT OF CALIFORNIA

Before The Honorable James Donato, Judge

IN RE GOOGLE PLAY STORE)	
ANTITRUST LITIGATION)	NO. 21-md-02981-JD
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)	
THIS DOCUMENT RELATES TO:)	
)	
Epic Games, Inc. vs. Google LLC, et al.,)	
Case No. 3:20-cv-05671-JD)	
)	
In Re Google Play Consumer Antitrust)	
Litigation, Case No. 3:20-cv-05761-JD)	
)	
State of Utah, et al. v. Google LLC,)	
et al., Case No. 3:21-cv-05227-JD)	
)	
Match Group, LLC, et al. vs. Google LLC,)	
et al., Case No. 3:22-cv-02746-JD)	
)	

San Francisco, California
Thursday, September 7, 2023

TRANSCRIPT OF PROCEEDINGS

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1 Thursday - September 7, 2023

11:15 a.m.

2 P R O C E E D I N G S3 ---o0o---

4 **THE CLERK:** Calling Civil 20-5671, Epic Games vs.
5 Google LLC; calling Civil 20-5761, In Re Google Play Consumer
6 Antitrust Litigation; Multidistrict Litigation 21-2981, In Re
7 Google Play Store Antitrust Litigation; Civil 21-5227, State of
8 Utah vs. Google LLC; and Civil 22-2746, Match Group, LLC vs.
9 Google LLC.

10 Counsel, please state your appearances for the record.

11 **MR. GLACKIN:** Brendan Glackin for the states.

12 **MS. GIULIANELLI:** Good morning. Karma Giulianelli for
13 the consumers.

14 **MR. DIXON:** Good morning, Your Honor. Doug Dixon of
15 Hueston Hennigan for the Match plaintiffs.

16 **MR. BORNSTEIN:** Good morning. Gary Bornstein for
17 plaintiff Epic Games.

18 **MR. EVEN:** Good morning. Yonatan Even for Epic Games.

19 **MR. POMERANTZ:** Good morning, Your Honor. Glenn
20 Pomerantz for Google. And with me today is my partner Jonathan
21 Kravis and Dane Shikman.

22 **MR. ROCCA:** And, Your Honor, it's Brian Rocca and
23 Michelle Park Chiu of Morgan Lewis for Google. Thank you.

24 **THE COURT:** Okay. Well, there have been developments.

25 So what's happening with the proposed settlements?

1 **MR. GLACKIN:** Good morning, Your Honor. Brendan
2 Glackin on behalf of the states.

3 So, I mean, we're pleased to report, as you saw in the
4 stipulation, that there's an agreement in principle between the
5 states and the consumers and Google to resolve those claims.

6 I mean, I'm happy to answer any questions --

7 **THE COURT:** Well, I'm wondering --

8 **MR. GLACKIN:** -- that you --

9 **THE COURT:** Thank you. I do have some questions.

10 So -- and we have to talk about scheduling.

11 I'll just tell you now, I'm very reluctant to move any
12 trial dates until I see something done, but we'll talk about
13 that.

14 So, now, the states are going to be settling on a
15 *parens patriae* basis; is that right?

16 **MR. GLACKIN:** Correct, Your Honor. In terms of the
17 format of the settlement, there will be an amended complaint
18 that includes the current state attorneys general and also the
19 attorneys general in jurisdictions that were previously part of
20 the proposed class. All of those claims of absent consumers
21 will be resolved on a *parens patriae* basis, and the claims of
22 the individual consumers will also be resolved as part of the
23 settlement process.

24 **THE COURT:** All right. Are you envisioning all 50
25 states plus the District?

1 **MR. GLACKIN:** Right now, 52 jurisdictions, Your Honor.

2 **THE COURT:** 52. Okay. What's the 52nd one?

3 **MR. GLACKIN:** Puerto Rico.

4 **THE COURT:** Oh, okay. All right.

5 Okay. And is this going to involve money?

6 **MR. GLACKIN:** There are monetary and non-monetary
7 terms to the settlement, Your Honor.

8 **THE COURT:** Are the monetary terms going to be
9 deposited with the state treasuries, or is it going to go to
10 consumers, or how is that going to work?

11 **MR. GLACKIN:** Well, Your Honor, there are aspects of
12 that that are still not ready to be disclosed. But in general,
13 there will be the creation of a fund for relief of consumers.
14 There will also be money going to other places.

15 **THE COURT:** And is the non-monetary relief going to be
16 some kind of structural change in the commission rate?

17 **MR. GLACKIN:** I don't believe I'm able right now --

18 **THE COURT:** Not ready to say? All right. That's
19 fine. Okay.

20 All right. You know, there's always an issue -- I am
21 going to decertify the consumer class. There's always an issue
22 with when you don't certify or you decertify, it's
23 eyebrow-raising to suddenly have a settlement class.

24 I understand you're not going to ask for that. Is
25 that right?

1 **MR. GLACKIN:** Correct, Your Honor. And if I could
2 speak to that a little bit. So, first of all, correct, we are
3 not going to need or request Your Honor to certify a settlement
4 class. It's unnecessary in the *parens* context. And that's one
5 reason that Congress enacted this amendment to the Clayton Act
6 40 years ago.

7 You know, in terms of -- I anticipated Your Honor
8 might see that sequencing. And what I would say is that, as we
9 set forth in the stipulation, this settlement, which is
10 actually -- and I want to be clear because when we get to
11 talking about scheduling and interim dates, this is not just a
12 scribble on the back of a napkin. This is a term sheet that
13 has been heavily negotiated between the parties over a matter
14 of months and that has been now approved at the staff level by
15 all 52 of these jurisdictions.

16 **THE COURT:** Well, I was wondering about that. So at
17 least a substantial preliminary review and approval has been
18 expressed by the 52 jurisdictions?

19 **MR. GLACKIN:** Oh, yes, at the staff level. I mean, my
20 colleagues at the attorneys general's offices worked over the
21 Labor Day weekend to get sign-off not only from the original 39
22 jurisdictions, but from all 13 of the new jurisdictions as
23 well. And we have staff-level approval at the appropriate
24 level of each of those jurisdictions. In some cases, it's the
25 chief of antitrust enforcement. In other cases, it's the chief

1 deputy for the state.

2 Now, I must emphasize that a settlement, particularly
3 in a case of this high profile, requires the sign-off of each
4 of the individual attorneys general; and that is, obviously --
5 that is a real decision that they have to make. They will
6 do -- these are elected officials, by and large, the chief law
7 enforcement officers of their respective jurisdictions. They
8 will undertake a careful review of the proposed settlement when
9 it is finalized, and they will have to sign off and approve it.

10 But at the moment, yes, we have a substantial term
11 sheet that has passed staff-level review at all 52
12 jurisdictions.

13 **THE COURT:** Well, okay. I mean, I'm glad to hear
14 that. But you don't have a final set of terms yet?

15 **MR. GLACKIN:** Your Honor, what we don't -- we have a
16 final set of terms in the sense of the core terms of the
17 agreement.

18 What we don't have is a long -- you know, the
19 long-form settlement agreement that includes the precise
20 wording of the releases, you know, and all the other bells and
21 whistles that go into the settlement of a mass action.

22 Now, ordinarily, you would be looking at me and be
23 saying: Mr. Glackin, I know you're a -- you can act with a lot
24 of alacrity. Let's get that done faster than the next month.

25 In this case, Your Honor, it's the -- it's not just a

1 matter of getting that agreement done. It's a matter of then
2 also going the review process -- through the review process
3 with the individual attorneys general. They need to be fully
4 briefed by their staff. They need to have a full opportunity
5 to see the agreement and sign off on it.

6 The benefit to Your Honor, though, is that when that
7 long-form agreement is finally presented to you, you'll know
8 that 52 -- the chief 52 law enforcement officers of the states
9 and jurisdictions all think this is a good deal for consumers.
10 And that's, again, a benefit --

11 **THE COURT:** Well, that may be, but what if -- what if
12 one or more decide that they can't close on the scope of the
13 release, which is not uncommon? I'm sure Google is going to be
14 asking for a lot, and I can see one of your 52 colleagues
15 saying, "That's too much in terms of a release."

16 So let's say one person -- one or two or three states
17 doesn't agree. What's going to happen then? Are you going to
18 cut them out and settle anyway? Are you going to call the
19 whole thing off? Is this a 52-or-bust deal?

20 **MR. GLACKIN:** I don't think there's a -- I don't think
21 that the -- I don't think there's a foregone conclusion about
22 what the result of that would be.

23 **THE COURT:** All right. So as of right now -- and
24 Mr. Pomerantz will need to reassure me on this as well -- this
25 is not an all-or-nothing deal. In other words, some parties

1 could drop out, and you would still end up settling.

2 Is that right, Mr. Pomerantz?

3 **MR. POMERANTZ:** Your Honor, what we have discussed, we
4 expect all 52 to sign off because they've seen the significant
5 terms.

6 **THE COURT:** Well, I understand. But now you're going
7 to ask elected officials, who may have other plans and issues
8 in mind, and they may have a different perspective.

9 So if, let's say, 10 percent of the states drop out,
10 are you still going to settle?

11 **MR. POMERANTZ:** What we would expect to do is have a
12 discussion with Mr. Leonelli about the possibility of having a
13 settlement class for those states.

14 **THE COURT:** I mean, I'm not saying that's impossible.
15 I mean, it is, as I said, eyebrow-raising. A raised eyebrow
16 does not mean "no." But it's not going to be a slam dunk. I'm
17 sure you understand that.

18 **MR. POMERANTZ:** We do, Your Honor.

19 **THE COURT:** Okay. It can be made to work, and I know
20 how I might do that, but you're going to have to present that
21 to me in the first instance.

22 **MR. POMERANTZ:** We understand.

23 **THE COURT:** Okay. So what's the -- I'm nervous about
24 banking on 52 elected officials, and I think that's -- I think
25 that's -- I'm not saying it's an unreasonable gamble, but it's

1 a risk. And I need to understand what's going to happen if
2 10 percent of them bail for whatever reason.

3 And the answer is you don't know yet?

4 **MR. POMERANTZ:** Your Honor, I guess what I would say
5 is, we have had discussions about, in that situation, that we
6 would discuss a settlement class for those -- consumers in
7 those states.

8 **THE COURT:** Well, but here's the issue. Let me
9 just -- I'll put it on the table.

10 Epic has been champing at the bit since two years ago
11 to go to trial. Every time they come in, they say, "We were
12 ready yesterday." And they have a trial date. I have a trial
13 date. We all have a trial date. It's November 6th. It's been
14 literally chiseled in stone. I have a little block of granite
15 that I chiseled it in, figuratively speaking.

16 I can't do this now and have the possibility that
17 you're going to crater in the state and consumer side and then
18 say, "We can't do it. We need a trial," because the thing we
19 must avoid at all costs is having two sets of juries wrestling
20 with the same legal issues and the same facts. Just, we can't
21 do it. So -- and I am not going to kick November 6th.

22 **MR. POMERANTZ:** Your Honor, I guess what I would say
23 to you is, based on discussions we've all had over many months,
24 none of us expect that we won't have a settlement to hand to
25 you by -- before the October 12th --

1 **THE COURT:** All right. I value and appreciate the
2 optimism, but having presided over hundreds of class
3 settlements where people have walked in a week before trial and
4 said it's a done deal and then come back trial day and say "We
5 couldn't finish it," things happen. All right? I understand
6 your optimism and your expectation, but it's not a guarantee.

7 So in 30 days, what do you think the states will
8 accomplish?

9 **MR. GLACKIN:** Well, Your Honor, I mean, in an ideal
10 world, in the next 30 days, we would have the full settlement
11 agreement papered and approved by the attorneys general.

12 We'll also be working, at the same time, to prepare
13 the motion for notice. There'll have to be a new motion for
14 notice because the settlement notice will look different. And
15 we would hope to be, I mean, in an ideal world, bringing that
16 to you as a package by the end of that 30-day period.

17 They -- the boulder here -- you know, the general
18 paperwork that the lawyers have to do is something we can
19 accomplish. The boulder is getting the settlement agreement
20 papered and approved. It might take more than --

21 **THE COURT:** Well, let me just jump in. I think the
22 boulder, in your words, is getting 52 elected state officials
23 to say, "This is a good deal for the people of my state."
24 That's, I think, the boulder.

25 And I understand your optimism, and you know better

1 than I do how staff and attorney generals relate, and I defer
2 to that to some extent. But I would not be surprised at all if
3 someone somewhere said, "I can't do this for the people of my
4 state."

5 **MR. GLACKIN:** Well, if I could just pivot for a minute
6 and address the issue of interim dates.

7 An issue here is that if we are held to the interim
8 dates, it's -- between now and October 12th, it's not only bad
9 for us; it's also kind of chaotic for the other plaintiffs.

10 I mean, if we're held to those dates, to avoid this
11 what I would hope is slender risk of something not working out
12 on our settlement, we're forcing the other plaintiffs to
13 basically plan to have a trial with us that they know they're
14 not going to have and -- or are highly certain they're not
15 going to have. And that's just chaotic.

16 I mean, the only way we could solve it would be to
17 have, like, two sets of --

18 **THE COURT:** Can I just share something with you? I
19 just finished a nine-year multidistrict litigation with scores
20 of parties for antitrust, and they all faced that risk. People
21 settled up to and during trial. That's just life. Okay?

22 I don't believe that Epic and Match are going to be
23 relying 100 percent for a key aspect of their case on you or
24 the consumers, and such that, if you dropped away, there would
25 be chaos and wailing on their part. It's just not going to

1 happen. They're going to have their case; and if you're there,
2 great; and if you're not, fine.

3 **MR. GLACKIN:** I think --

4 **THE COURT:** Every party has this in a multi-partied
5 case. That, I don't buy.

6 I understand you don't want to do the work, and I
7 appreciate that. These are public resources. I get it. Okay?
8 There is an efficiency issue.

9 But in a normal circumstance, if it were just you two,
10 that probably would be okay. I would do it. But this is a
11 different situation, you know that, as I just said a few
12 moments ago. You know, there are two parties who are locked
13 and loaded and want to go, and their day has not come. It's
14 been delayed and delayed and delayed by me to accommodate
15 everybody. And now I just -- I'm not going to ask them to wait
16 longer.

17 So let me just hear from Epic and Match.

18 I mean, what do you want to do? Let me ask you that.

19 **MR. BORNSTEIN:** Gary Bornstein for Epic, Your Honor.

20 It will come as no surprise, we want to go to trial.
21 We want to go to trial on November 6th, and we're going to be
22 ready to do that.

23 **THE COURT:** What about -- your colleague here says
24 you're going to be strapped if they drop out at the
25 last minute.

1 **MR. BORNSTEIN:** The issue, I think, is not so much
2 that we'll be strapped at the last minute. We've been planning
3 for this possibility all along, with no guarantee one way or
4 the other how it would go.

5 We do have a lot of coordination that we've been doing
6 with one another. The people at this table have spent an awful
7 lot of time together, Your Honor, trying to prepare
8 cooperatively for this trial.

9 It is something of a burden on us to do the additional
10 coordination to make sure: When we're doing deposition
11 designations, do we all agree? When we're planning the expert
12 program, do we all agree?

13 There is complication associated with having multiple
14 plaintiffs that does get simpler when there are fewer of us who
15 need to agree on the --

16 **THE COURT:** But that's actually --

17 **MR. BORNSTEIN:** -- strategic decisions.

18 **THE COURT:** -- the status quo.

19 Here's the issue. You were going to do that anyway.
20 So I know now you're saying, "Oh, but, look, here's a tempting
21 off-ramp." But that off-ramp didn't exist until a day or two
22 ago; so it hasn't added to your work. It's just maintained the
23 status quo, which I understand is complicated.

24 But you want to start November 6th?

25 **MR. BORNSTEIN:** Yes, Your Honor.

1 **THE COURT:** All right. Match?

2 **MR. DIXON:** Doug Dixon for the Match plaintiffs.

3 Your Honor, we are of the same opinion. We want to
4 start. We're ready to go and would like to begin trial on
5 November 6th.

6 **THE COURT:** All right. Okay. Well, Mr. Pomerantz, I
7 haven't heard much from you on scheduling.

8 **MR. POMERANTZ:** We are also prepared to go on
9 November 6 with Epic and Match.

10 And we agree with the counsel for the states and for
11 the consumers that allowing us to vacate the trial date and the
12 interim dates allows us to focus with them on getting the
13 settlement finalized and out for approval to the relevant
14 parties.

15 **THE COURT:** All right. Well, I can't do it. I can
16 wait for 30 days. And if you come back in 30 days, I think
17 we'll have a much clearer picture of what's going to happen.
18 Ideally, it sounds even realistically, you'll be done. At
19 least all 52 people would have signed off on it.

20 But if I cancel you right now and this thing
21 craters -- and there is a non-trivial possibility that it will,
22 just statistically speaking. I'm not saying anything about the
23 parties involved, but statistically speaking, settlements fall
24 apart all the time, particularly a case this complex with so
25 many moving pieces -- I can't do November 6, and I probably

1 wouldn't be able to have you back until the second or third
2 quarter of 2024 earliest. I have a giant -- I also have a
3 giant multi-defendant murder/racketeering thing that is going
4 to go, and that might even derail Q3 of next year.

5 So you could be looking at -- I think it's unlikely,
6 but you could be looking at a year from now, and I don't think
7 Mr. Bornstein wants to have that happen.

8 **MR. GLACKIN:** I'm sure that's right, Your Honor.

9 If I may take one last shot. It's not just that
10 they're relying on this. It's that our presence in the case
11 makes these things look different. Right? The jury
12 instructions are different if the states are in the case or not
13 in the case.

14 **THE COURT:** Well, let me just jump in. Okay. 30 days
15 from now is October 7th. That's fine. I've got plenty --
16 look, the preliminary instructions to the jury, I can amend, if
17 you drop out, in an hour. The final instructions for a
18 four-week trial we're probably going to end up doing during the
19 trial anyway when you're not here. So I'm not worried about
20 that.

21 It's just a matter of the issue of acting like
22 everybody's going to be in the case for another 30 days.
23 I think you're just going to have to do that.

24 And if you don't settle -- and this is for you to
25 decide. I'm not going to ask for anything from you. But if it

1 doesn't work, you are going on November 6th. I want to be
2 clear about that. Okay? If for whatever reason this does not
3 work, the named plaintiffs, consumers, no class, and the states
4 will be on deck November 6th with everybody else. Okay? I'm
5 not going to -- I cannot push this off saying: Oh, well, as
6 you know, we were going to settle and it fell apart and we need
7 four more weeks. It's not going to happen. All right?

8 So we'll see you where you are. I'll set you for --
9 what is it? October -- you want to come back October 7th?
10 When did you want to come back?

11 **MR. GLACKIN:** We'd proposed October 12th.

12 **THE COURT:** You want to do the 12th? Okay.

13 Now, if you get this done ahead of time, you can tell
14 me. Okay? I mean, it has to be a rock-solid representation
15 that all 52 officials have signed off. And there may be some
16 ministerial, purely ministerial things to do, but we are
17 d-o-n-e; we are done. Okay? That's fine. I don't mind that.

18 **MR. GLACKIN:** The final settlement agreement that has
19 been approved by the 52 attorneys general.

20 **THE COURT:** And approved in such a way that nobody can
21 come back later and say: Oh, I was still thinking about it and
22 now I say no.

23 You understand what I mean?

24 **MR. GLACKIN:** We have an interest in avoiding that
25 also, Your Honor.

1 **MR. POMERANTZ:** Your Honor, if I could raise one thing
2 that follows up on what you said --

3 **THE COURT:** Yes.

4 **MR. POMERANTZ:** -- about the jury instructions.

5 **THE COURT:** If I may, Mr. Pomerantz, that also means
6 Google is on -- pledged.

7 **MR. POMERANTZ:** We're on board.

8 **THE COURT:** So if you can't work something out -- I've
9 been talking about the states, but Google may balk at some
10 point too. So that goes for you. You need to pledge to me:
11 This is a done deal. All we have to do is literally change
12 paragraph numbering. But other than that, we're good.

13 **MR. POMERANTZ:** Okay. Understood, Your Honor.

14 On jury instructions, what Mr. Glackin was referring
15 to was that the 39 states have combined alleged, I think,
16 something over 200 state law claims, which raise a lot of
17 different jury instructions.

18 **THE COURT:** Just wait on that. Okay? We have plenty
19 of time.

20 **MR. POMERANTZ:** So we don't need to deal with that
21 between now and October --

22 **THE COURT:** That's the one thing I'll let you -- I
23 mean, Epic and Match, you should do your jury instructions.
24 All right? I will carve out, for the moment, just that. But
25 that's it. That's the only thing I will carve out. And the

1 only reason I'll carve that out is if you tell me on
2 October 12th "We failed," I will have at least four weeks to
3 get this done. When I say "I," I mean we. We will have at
4 least four weeks to get this done.

5 It won't be that hard. These are going to be
6 Cartwright-type instructions -- right? -- under the California
7 Cartwright Act or some state law. They're all going to be more
8 or less the same. There are just going to be a lot of them.
9 They're not radically different laws. The consumer laws --

10 **MR. GLACKIN:** Absolutely, Your Honor. I'm just taking
11 a deep breath because there's a whole discussion there that I
12 hope we don't have to have because we've settled.

13 **THE COURT:** No, I understand. But it's not going to
14 be the end of the world -- we're not going to be writing this
15 as if nobody has ever tried these claims before. We're going
16 to have plenty of exemplars to work with.

17 **MR. GLACKIN:** That's correct, Your Honor. We
18 appreciate the relief from that requirement because --

19 **THE COURT:** Just that. That's the only one.

20 **MR. GLACKIN:** Yes, Your Honor.

21 **THE COURT:** And then on October 13th, you may be doing
22 nothing but writing jury instructions. So be prepared for
23 that. Okay?

24 **MR. GLACKIN:** Great.

25 **THE COURT:** Okay. Now, if Epic and Match go forward

1 by themselves, we're going to do a jury trial. Right? And
2 we're going to do -- okay. That sounds good.

3 Did you want to add something, Mr. Bornstein?

4 **MR. BORNSTEIN:** Yes, Your Honor. Thank you.

5 Just one minor logistical issue that I want to make
6 sure we don't have any trouble with arising from what now is at
7 least arguably a divergence of interests on the plaintiff side.

8 We've all been cooperating very effectively because
9 we've been very comfortable that we're operating within a
10 common interest privilege, and I want to make sure --

11 **THE COURT:** Why are your interests diverging, though?
12 One group is settling; you're not. What's the divergence?

13 **MR. BORNSTEIN:** Well, if we're now, for example,
14 planning trial strategy and we have co-plaintiffs who are at
15 the same time moving towards a settlement, arguably Google may
16 argue that there ceases to be a common interest at that point
17 and that our communications cease to be protected.

18 **THE COURT:** I will not allow that argument to fly.

19 **MR. BORNSTEIN:** Thank you very much, Your Honor.

20 **THE COURT:** I'm sure Mr. Pomerantz, even if he were
21 tempted, would realize that would be not in anyone's interest
22 to argue that.

23 **MR. POMERANTZ:** We have no intention of doing that,
24 Your Honor.

25 **MR. BORNSTEIN:** Belts and suspenders. Thank you, Your

1 Honor.

2 **THE COURT:** All right. While you're here, what about
3 this Riot Games thing? Is that you, or is that --

4 **MR. BORNSTEIN:** If you don't mind, Your Honor, I'm
5 going to allow my partner Mr. Even to handle that.

6 **THE COURT:** Okay. All right.

7 **MR. EVEN:** Yonatan Even, Your Honor, for Epic.

8 So on Riot, where we are is that we have been trying
9 for several months now to solve a problem that we think that
10 Google has created.

11 Google had four months to seek discovery, coordinated
12 discovery, from Riot. They didn't do that. What they did
13 instead was coordinate with Riot, who's an alleged
14 co-conspirator with Google, and got to a point where they were
15 comfortable enough, apparently, that they know what a Riot
16 witness would say in deposition, and then noticed us that
17 there's going to be a deposition in one week without any
18 documents or anything like that.

19 **THE COURT:** No documents?

20 **MR. EVEN:** I'm sorry?

21 **THE COURT:** You didn't get any documents ahead of the
22 deposition?

23 **MR. EVEN:** We didn't even know they were speaking to
24 Riot. That was one week before the deadline, the cutoff for
25 depositions.

1 We told them: That's sandbagging. You can't do that.
2 Let's push the deposition till after the cutoff, and we'll try
3 and get documents.

4 Since then, we've been negotiating with Riot, who's
5 put up every obstacle in the book. Nonetheless, I think we're
6 pretty close right now.

7 **THE COURT:** Oh, okay.

8 **MR. EVEN:** We've given them very limited search terms.
9 They told us that it hit on, I think, 16,500 documents.

10 I wrote to them and said, we agreed to many things
11 that they've asked us, like redactions and things like that.
12 We've agreed to bear significant costs, which no other third
13 party received in this case, up to \$30,000.

14 They demanded more. They said that their client is
15 currently abroad and they'll get back to us.

16 I checked again this morning. She said he's still
17 abroad. I haven't heard back.

18 That is the state of play.

19 **THE COURT:** Do you want me to set a date, or what is
20 it you'd like me to do?

21 **MR. EVEN:** So what I want, Your Honor, is to not have
22 an artificial date. There's no magic around the date that
23 Google has proposed. We -- I'm happy to commit --

24 **THE COURT:** Well, the trial's in eight weeks.

25 **MR. EVEN:** I understand that, Your Honor, and I

1 understand that -- I'm happy to commit that if we can't reach
2 resolution very quickly, we will move to compel next week,
3 let's say. That's going to be in the --

4 **THE COURT:** Let's just take care of it now. So do you
5 think you have a deal? Is that what you're saying?

6 **MR. EVEN:** I think -- I'm very hopeful we have a deal,
7 but I haven't heard back from Riot.

8 **THE COURT:** Do you have a deal?

9 **MS. CHIU:** Your Honor --

10 **THE COURT:** Can you just remind the court reporter who
11 you are?

12 **MS. CHIU:** Yes. Michelle Park Chiu on behalf of
13 Google.

14 We'd just like to point out that this document
15 subpoena was served in April. Google only served a deposition
16 subpoena. We did not actually seek documents. We just needed
17 the testimony from a Riot individual.

18 And when Epic served their subpoena in April, they've
19 had several months to negotiate the production of documents.
20 Google has been prepared to take this deposition since March of
21 this year, and each time we propose a date, Epic has told us
22 they're not ready because they don't have any documents.

23 They did receive documents in July of this year but
24 continued to insist that they don't have enough. And,
25 you know, they told us on August 28th that they were at an

1 impasse or near an impasse and were prepared to file a motion
2 to compel, but no such motion has been filed.

3 So even if Mr. Even is correct that they are prepared
4 to move forward with a motion to compel in the Central District
5 of California, that's at least a month before any such motion
6 could be decided, at the earliest.

7 **THE COURT:** It's a little late now.

8 It's in CD Cal? Riot is in CD Cal?

9 **MR. EVEN:** I'm sorry?

10 **THE COURT:** Riot is in CD Cal?

11 **MR. EVEN:** In CD Cal. They're in L.A., Your Honor.

12 **THE COURT:** It's an interesting issue that I have
13 thought about.

14 So the convention is you enforce the subpoena in the
15 district where the third party is resident. However, if
16 they're in California, we have statewide service rules,
17 statewide powers to compel. So I'm not sure you actually -- in
18 other words, I think I can do it for you. But let's see if we
19 can avoid that.

20 Okay. I understand. You think they were late and all
21 that, but now they're here. So Mr. Even thinks you have a
22 deal. Do you have a deal?

23 **MS. CHIU:** We are not involved in the discussions
24 regarding the document subpoena because that was served only by
25 Epic. And from Google's perspective, it's not really our issue

1 or dispute. We just want them to be finished. Either produce
2 the documents that they're going to produce or come to an
3 impasse and be ready to proceed with a deposition.

4 So we need a deposition date.

5 **THE COURT:** So Riot is not here today. Is that the
6 issue?

7 **MR. EVEN:** They're not here, Your Honor.

8 **THE COURT:** Well, so your deal is with Riot, not with
9 Google?

10 **MR. EVEN:** My deal is with the lawyer from Riot,
11 that's correct.

12 **THE COURT:** I see. Okay. Well, just tell me by next
13 week. All right? Just tell me -- if you have a problem, we'll
14 take care of it next week.

15 **MR. EVEN:** Thank you very much, Your Honor.

16 **THE COURT:** But I think -- why don't you have somebody
17 look at it, but I believe I can handle it. And certainly, if
18 Riot wants to just agree to that, it will make life a lot
19 easier. But it is going to happen. So, but don't -- I mean,
20 why did you wait so long?

21 **MR. EVEN:** Well, Your Honor, I can go with you through
22 the litany of --

23 **THE COURT:** No, let's don't do that.

24 **MR. EVEN:** -- delays, but I don't think it's going to
25 interest Your Honor.

1 **THE COURT:** All right. Okay. Now, also, bifurcating
2 counterclaims, we're not going to bifurcate. It's one trial
3 and get everything done.

4 Now, where are you two on blockbuster settlements,
5 Epic and Match?

6 **MR. EVEN:** I'll let Mr. Bornstein...

7 **THE COURT:** What's happening on your resolution
8 efforts?

9 **MR. BORNSTEIN:** I have nothing to report on that,
10 Your Honor.

11 **THE COURT:** Are you trying?

12 **MR. BORNSTEIN:** We have had conversations a few --
13 several months ago.

14 **THE COURT:** Okay. But now we have a new marker on the
15 table. Now Google -- I don't know the deal terms. I have no
16 idea. You probably know much more than I do. But Google is
17 signaling substantial willingness to pay and to reform. So is
18 that a breakthrough opportunity?

19 **MR. BORNSTEIN:** Well, Your Honor, first of all, we're
20 not seeking damages.

21 Second of all --

22 **THE COURT:** All right. Just reform then. How about
23 that?

24 **MR. BORNSTEIN:** Second of all, we don't know the
25 terms. The states have been as mum with me as they have been

1 with Your Honor on what the terms are. And I understand why.
2 But they have been.

3 Our client has publicly said that it is prepared to
4 settle if there is actually going to be openness in the two
5 markets that we have identified.

6 **THE COURT:** What would that mean, just at a general
7 level? I do not want to hear about any actual settlement
8 communications. That's not for me. But just as a -- let's
9 assume we're talking about your post-trial win injunction.
10 What is it you would like to see happen?

11 **MR. BORNSTEIN:** So happily, Your Honor, I'm not
12 violating settlement privilege because we've said this --

13 **THE COURT:** Yes, we all agree on that.

14 **MR. BORNSTEIN:** We've said this publicly.

15 So there are three pillars or three principles to the
16 settlement we would like to see.

17 Number one is openness in app distribution so that
18 there is freedom and flexibility for developers to be able to
19 distribute their apps on the Android operating system without
20 having to go through a Google-controlled pipe.

21 **THE COURT:** Okay.

22 **MR. BORNSTEIN:** Second is freedom and openness in
23 payments so that there is not a requirement for developers,
24 like Epic and Match, to use Google's payment system when they
25 would rather use either their own or a competitor, like PayPal

1 or somebody like that.

2 **THE COURT:** All right.

3 **MR. BORNSTEIN:** That's number two.

4 And number three is just good, strong

5 anticircumvention walls around the settlement to make sure that
6 there aren't differing creative ways that Google comes up with
7 or devises to get around Pillars 1 and 2.

8 And we've seen some of that in other jurisdictions. I
9 can give Your Honor details if Your Honor is interested, but
10 nothing --

11 **THE COURT:** That sounds a little --

12 **MR. BORNSTEIN:** -- all that different --

13 **THE COURT:** I mean, that sounds a little like the
14 classic don't-break-the-law injunction, which you can't get,
15 typically.

16 **MR. BORNSTEIN:** No, Your Honor, it's not intended to
17 be that opaque. And I can get into detail if the Court is
18 interested, but the idea is similar to what you often see in
19 FTC and DOJ settlements where there are defined
20 anticircumvention provisions to ensure that the anticompetitive
21 conduct that has been adjudicated is not replicated through
22 similar and related means.

23 **THE COURT:** You're not talking about a monitor or
24 anything like that, are you?

25 **MR. BORNSTEIN:** No, Your Honor, we're not.

1 **THE COURT:** Well, I mean, it sounds like there's some
2 opportunity to discuss these things. I imagine the states and
3 the consumers wouldn't be settling, but I don't know.

4 So -- well, who are you seeing? Are you seeing
5 someone, Mr. Pomerantz?

6 **MR. POMERANTZ:** By "seeing," I'm sorry.

7 **THE COURT:** A mediator.

8 **MR. POMERANTZ:** Yes, we used a mediator, Judges Daniel
9 Weinstein and Rebecca Westerfield.

10 **THE COURT:** Okay.

11 **MR. POMERANTZ:** They worked with us on the settlement
12 with the states and with the consumers.

13 **THE COURT:** All right. Is that who you're using? Are
14 you two, Match and Epic, are you using those?

15 **MR. BORNSTEIN:** The communications that we have had,
16 Your Honor, have been principal to principal.

17 **THE COURT:** You've never had a mediator?

18 **THE WITNESS:** Correct.

19 **THE COURT:** It may be time for one, don't you think?

20 **MR. BORNSTEIN:** We have been very clear about the
21 principles that we would settle on. And if Google is prepared
22 to have a conversation on the basis of those principles, that
23 would be fine. If Google is not prepared to have a discussion
24 on the basis of the publicly stated principles that I've just
25 repeated again to Your Honor, it probably would be a waste of

1 the parties' time.

2 **THE COURT:** Mr. Pomerantz?

3 **MR. POMERANTZ:** We have had discussions in the past,
4 both principal to principal and lawyer to lawyer, and I'm sure
5 we will continue to stay in touch.

6 I would say that --

7 **THE COURT:** This is all too bland. Who are the
8 principals on the Google side?

9 **MR. POMERANTZ:** Hold on.

10 **THE COURT:** You don't even know. So this means you
11 guys have not --

12 **MR. POMERANTZ:** I'm going to say senior executives at
13 Google have spoken to senior executives at Epic.

14 **THE COURT:** All right. They're going to talk again.
15 All right? I want you to have a meeting face to face --
16 all right? I'm going to order that -- face-to-face with the
17 two decision-makers, two people who can have a handshake deal
18 at the end of this meeting and bind both companies. All right?

19 So who is that going to be, Mr. Pomerantz?

20 **MR. POMERANTZ:** I would have to talk to my client. I
21 do know who participated the last time, but I don't know who
22 would be the right people.

23 Mr. Bornstein and I have had some good dialogue about
24 this. I think we would be able to --

25 **THE COURT:** All right. Well, I'm elevating it from

1 dialogue to now an order. So you both pick -- if it's your
2 CEOs or CFOs or whoever can do it. It's probably going to be a
3 C-suite person, I would imagine. But you have them in a room.
4 You can pick a neutral ground. People like Denver. You know,
5 whatever you want to do. Don't go to her place. That wouldn't
6 be neutral. And you get it done. All right?

7 So that's going to be a court order. The next two
8 weeks, in person, two people who can do a deal, walk out of
9 that room with -- what is that Civil Code Section 664.6,
10 California? Makes it a binding deal. Okay? And that's going
11 to be my requirement.

12 Now, if you need a couple more days because two weeks
13 is too soon, that's fine, you can tell me. You need to ask me
14 first. But that's going to be the order. All right?

15 **MR. POMERANTZ:** And, Your Honor, just to be clear,
16 because we were only talking about Epic but --

17 **THE COURT:** And Match.

18 **MR. POMERANTZ:** -- the same is true --

19 **THE COURT:** And Match.

20 **MR. POMERANTZ:** The same is true with -- well, I think
21 they need to be separate discussions, but the same is true --

22 **THE COURT:** Do they need to be separate discussions?

23 **MR. POMERANTZ:** They do, Your Honor. I think both
24 sides would agree with that.

25 **THE COURT:** Match is on a different page for

1 settlement in terms of principals?

2 **MR. DIXON:** Your Honor, we do have some differences in
3 that we do seek -- Doug Dixon for the Match plaintiffs -- we do
4 seek monetary damages as well. I don't think that that's
5 necessarily driving the differences between us and Google
6 like --

7 **THE COURT:** No. Between you and Epic. You two are --
8 aren't you on the same page for remedies?

9 **MR. DIXON:** With respect to the injunctive relief, the
10 reform that we seek, yes, Your Honor. The pillars that
11 Mr. Bornstein just outlined are those that we too are seeking.

12 But I think in terms of -- we do seek monetary relief
13 in addition to the reform. I would ask perhaps that the first
14 meeting, at least, Your Honor, be separate so that Match would
15 meet with Google. Epic can --

16 **THE COURT:** No. I want you all to be there and talk
17 about at least these big points, which are the reform points.
18 The money can be worked out. I'm not saying it's going to be
19 easy, but the money can be worked out.

20 You can have a second discussion separately with
21 Google because I'm sure Mr. Bornstein doesn't want to burn his
22 time doing that.

23 But let's get together on the macro issues, which
24 I think is the conduct issues. And I hear you saying you're
25 basically on the same page. I understand there are going to be

1 some -- you know, you'll have different little nuances, but --
2 so you do the same thing. You have a person who can bind
3 Match, at least on that portion of the agreement.

4 Now, after that, you should probably stay and have a
5 discussion about the money as well. Okay?

6 **MR. DIXON:** Understood. And I'm not pressing for
7 early release, Your Honor, but we do understand there is some
8 reform, some injunctive relief that's part of Google's
9 settlement with the states and consumers. It would be
10 helpful to know --

11 **THE COURT:** I don't want to wait 30 days. You need to
12 do it sooner than that because we're about to fall off a work
13 cliff, and so -- look, this thing came out of the blue, at
14 least to me. So you may have a similar --

15 **MR. DIXON:** Yes, Your Honor.

16 **THE COURT:** Smart companies do smart things, and this
17 may be an example of somebody just wanting to get life done and
18 move forward. So...

19 **MR. DIXON:** I agree, Your Honor. I just would love to
20 learn what that relief is sooner.

21 **THE COURT:** I can't order them to disclose
22 confidential settlement agreements.

23 If the three of you -- meaning Google,
24 states/consumers, and you -- want to reach some agreement on
25 that, I don't -- that's fine. You can privately order whatever

1 you want. But I can't see that until it's final, nor should I
2 see it. And I don't know about the dynamic. There may be
3 reasons why the states and the consumers and Google don't want
4 to do that.

5 But clearly, the door has opened, if even only a hair.
6 So you should just do that. All right? So two weeks, that's
7 the goal.

8 Okay. Anything else for today?

9 Mr. Pomerantz?

10 **MR. POMERANTZ:** I don't think so, Your Honor.

11 **THE COURT:** All right. Plaintiffs?

12 **MR. BORNSTEIN:** Yes, Your Honor. We had an issue
13 around the chat sanctions.

14 **THE COURT:** Oh, yes, the chats. Well, discovery is
15 closed now; right?

16 **MR. BORNSTEIN:** Correct, Your Honor.

17 **THE COURT:** Okay. So tell me what you think you're
18 missing. I think that's how I left it. I just want to get
19 some sense of -- now, I know I said in the order -- and it's
20 certainly true now -- you can't talk about things you don't
21 know about. But you should be able to give me at least some
22 informed sense of things that you expected to have seen or you
23 thought you would have seen or you saw a little bit of, or
24 whatever, and you think the chat issue impacted that in a
25 negative way.

1 **MR. BORNSTEIN:** Yes, Your Honor.

2 **THE COURT:** Whatever you want to do. See what I'm
3 saying?

4 **MR. BORNSTEIN:** Absolutely. And I guess the question
5 I have for Your Honor is, we propose to actually submit
6 something to the Court in writing.

7 **THE COURT:** Yes. I want to do it now. We're not
8 going to wait for trial.

9 **MR. BORNSTEIN:** Oh, okay. So I can cover that,
10 Your Honor.

11 **THE COURT:** Well, just whenever you want to do it. I
12 mean, do you want to do it -- not now. I mean, you've got to
13 file something.

14 **MR. BORNSTEIN:** Yes.

15 **THE COURT:** Yeah. When do you want to file it?

16 **MR. BORNSTEIN:** So we proposed in the submission that
17 we would file something two weeks from today, with a response
18 from Google in two weeks. We would do a reply. It would all
19 be teed up for the Court at our pretrial conference.

20 **THE COURT:** Yeah, that sounds fine.

21 **MR. POMERANTZ:** Your Honor, if I could, obviously, if
22 Your Honor wants briefing before trial, we will do so.

23 **THE COURT:** I have to, Mr. Pomerantz. I can't --
24 first of all, something -- I have already found that something
25 was intentionally not preserved. I'm not going to sail into

1 trial as if that didn't happen and just way wait to see the
2 evidence.

3 The defendants -- I mean, the plaintiffs can now tell
4 me, I think, with a reasonable degree -- let me say, with
5 enough specificity that I can work with it, what they think
6 they didn't get. And you can tell me why that's no harm, no
7 foul, if that's what you want to tell me. All right?

8 So we can do that before trial, and we're going to do
9 it.

10 **MR. POMERANTZ:** Your Honor, my question wasn't about
11 briefing and providing that information to the Court. The
12 question is when should Your Honor make a decision.

13 And we believe -- they have an exhibit list right now
14 to us of, like, 1700 exhibits, of which 1300 are not contracts
15 or data; they're just documents. They're e-mails and decks.

16 And I think Your Honor should see at trial what all
17 the evidence is that they have that was preserved, and you
18 should also hear what evidence comes out of trial about the
19 chats, and then Your Honor should decide: Should I give an
20 instruction at all? If so, what should that instruction be?

21 And I do think that when you see the evidence at trial
22 and then you also -- both the evidence that is available and
23 the evidence on chats, Your Honor will be in a much better
24 position to decide what instruction, if any, should be given.
25 Just like happens with almost all other jury instructions, you

1 wait until you see it before you make your decision, and that
2 decision happens at the end of trial.

3 **THE COURT:** We're going to do one step at a time.
4 We're going to do the briefing first. Then we'll discuss it at
5 the pretrial conference. What happens after that remains to be
6 seen.

7 **MR. POMERANTZ:** That's fine, Your Honor.

8 **THE COURT:** Now, also, 1700 exhibits? Everybody comes
9 in with 1700 exhibits, and they all end up using a dozen. So
10 that's just the way life is at trial.

11 Now, this may affect the trial length a little bit; so
12 we're not going to do it now. But as you get closer to the
13 pretrial conference, let's just think about, maybe we don't
14 need as much time with the states and the consumers. Should
15 they not be there? Might be easier to do timewise.

16 Now, there were no *Dauberts* on the Epic/Match part;
17 right?

18 So who's your economist, Mr. Bornstein?

19 **MR. BORNSTEIN:** Well, we have two economists
20 addressing the two separate markets. One of them is
21 Dr. Douglas Bernheim, who's here at Stanford; and the other one
22 is Dr. Steven Tadelis, who's here at Berkeley.

23 **THE COURT:** Match, who do you have?

24 **MR. DIXON:** We have --

25 **THE COURT:** Are you using the same?

1 **MR. DIXON:** No, Your Honor. We do have an expert. We
2 are coordinating with -- Doug Dixon for the Match plaintiffs.

3 We have Dr. Schwartz, whom we are using. We do -- we
4 are coordinating with Epic to ensure that we are not
5 overlapping and presenting on redundant, or the same, issues.
6 There are some Match-specific issues unique to Match that
7 Dr. Schwartz will be addressing.

8 **THE COURT:** All right.

9 **MR. POMERANTZ:** Your Honor, if I could address this
10 one issue.

11 **THE COURT:** You can. Before I -- just -- so I'm happy
12 to hear you're working on redundancy. That's important.

13 And also, just, I'm concerned. I'm just going to
14 leave it at that for now. Whether I do anything, we'll see.
15 But two markets, fine. I don't want two and a half markets or
16 two markets plus this other thing. Okay? It's going to be too
17 much for the jury. They can handle this. I have a hundred
18 percent confidence.

19 I just did a really complicated Section 1 case. Jury
20 asked over 20 questions. They were superb questions. I gave
21 each and every one of them.

22 I don't have a question about the jury being able to
23 handled it. I do have a question about experts on the same
24 side having irreconcilable or conflicting views of what the
25 market is.

1 So please have an eye towards that as well. Okay?

2 **MR. DIXON:** We will. We do, Your Honor.

3 **MR. POMERANTZ:** Your Honor --

4 **THE COURT:** Yes.

5 **MR. POMERANTZ:** -- related to that issue, we had teed
6 up an issue for Your Honor's consideration regarding the fact
7 that they haven't yet winnowed down their experts.

8 That being said, because we expect there to be a
9 settlement here, assuming that the five experts that have been
10 designated solely by the states and the consumers are not
11 testifying at trial, which is what we obviously expect, then we
12 don't have that same concern. And we will work with them, and
13 we're not seeking to keep out any of their experts. We would
14 expect them not to be testifying on overlapping issues, but
15 we're not trying to have them streamline further, assuming that
16 the experts, which are Mr. Singer, Rysman, Chase, Solomon, and
17 Presser, those five were only designated by the states and the
18 consumers, and we would not expect them to testify at trial,
19 assuming a settlement.

20 **THE COURT:** Is that right?

21 **MR. BORNSTEIN:** It's not our intention to call any of
22 the individuals that Mr. Pomerantz just mentioned.

23 **THE COURT:** All right. Match?

24 **MR. DIXON:** Doug Dixon for the Match plaintiffs.

25 The same, Your Honor.

THE COURT: Okay.

MR. POMERANTZ: That's fine, Your Honor.

3 **THE COURT:** Okay. Thanks very much, and I'll see you
4 on October 12th.

THE CLERK: All rise. Court's in recess.

(Proceedings adjourned at 11:58 a.m.)

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CERTIFICATE OF REPORTER

I certify that the foregoing is a correct transcript from the record of proceedings in the above-entitled matter.

DATE: Friday, September 8, 2023

Ana Dub

Ana Dub, RMR, RDR, CRR, CCRR, CRG, CCG
CSR No. 7445, Official United States Reporter